

Serial No.: 09/626,040

Listing of the Claims:

1. Cancelled without prejudice.

2. (Currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 1 ~~27~~, wherein the print substrate comprises a plurality of smaller substrate segments.

3. (Currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 1 ~~27~~, further comprising:

a loading station; and wherein the print station further comprises a stationary print platform.

4. (Currently amended): A system for printing an entire image on oversized print media, comprising:

a transportation system having a track;

a printing station, comprising a moveable print head;

an unloading station and delivery station;

a platform, A system as claimed in claim 1, the platform further comprising a clamping device and an expandable member, wherein the clamping device is coupled to the expandable member, wherein the platform is sized to receive an oversized print substrate, the print substrate being sized to correspond to a desired product size, and wherein the platform resides on the track and moves along the track in a translational motion;

wherein the printing station and the unloading station and delivery station are coupled together by the track; the platform and print substrate being linearly translated along the track to each

station; and

wherein the print head is configured to scan across the print substrate in a direction perpendicular to the translational motion of the print substrate.

5. (Previously added): A system as claimed in claim 4, the clamping device being configured to releasably couple to the print substrate and secure the print substrate to the platform.

6. (Currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 4— 4, further comprising a transport mechanism having a rectangular member; and a motor, wherein the rectangular member is configured to contact the platform during operation and linearly translate the platform along the track.

7. (Currently amended): A system for printing an entire image on oversized print media, comprising:  
a transportation system having a track;  
a printing station, comprising a moveable print head;  
an unloading station and delivery station;  
a platform, wherein the platform is sized to receive an oversized print substrate, the print substrate being sized to correspond to a desired product size, and wherein the platform resides on the track and moves along the track in a translational motion;

~~A system for printing as claimed in claim 1, further comprising~~ a smoothing device having a horizontal bed and an elevating means, and wherein the platform further comprises a

Serial No.: 09/626,040

hollow frame, wherein the horizontal bed is sized to pass through the hollow frame when the horizontal bed is elevated;

wherein the printing station and the unloading station and delivery station are coupled together by the track; the platform and print substrate being linearly translated along the track to each station; and

wherein the print head is configured to scan across the print substrate in a direction perpendicular to the translational motion of the print substrate.

8. (Previously added): A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the smoothing device is coordinated with the platform movement such that the elevating means elevates the horizontal bed of the smoothing device in accordance with a predefined position of the platform along the track.

9. (Previously amended): A system for printing an entire image on oversized print media, comprising:

a transportation system having a track;

a printing station, comprising a moveable print head;

an unloading station and delivery station;

a platform, wherein the platform is sized to receive an oversized print substrate, the print substrate being sized to correspond to a desired product size, and wherein the platform resides on the track and moves along the track in a translational motion;

wherein the printing station and the unloading station and delivery station are coupled together by the track; the platform and print substrate being linearly translated along the track to each station;

wherein the print head is configured to scan across the print substrate in a direction perpendicular to the translational motion of the print substrate; and

a smoothing device having a horizontal bed and an elevating means;

wherein the smoothing device is coordinated with the platform movement such that the elevating means elevates the horizontal bed of the smoothing device in accordance with a predefined position of the platform along the track; and wherein the platform further comprises a hollow frame, wherein the horizontal bed is sized to pass through the hollow frame when the horizontal bed is elevated.

10. (Previously added) A method for printing an image on oversized print media, the copy of the image being received by a printer from a client, comprising:

assembling a single print substrate, wherein the single print substrate comprises a plurality of smaller print substrate segments;

editing and adjusting the print parameters for the image;

scanning the image and storing the image on a storage medium;

printing the image onto the preassembled single print substrate; and

delivering the printed substrate to the client.

11. (Currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein assembling a print substrate

Serial No.: 09/626,040

further comprises coupling the smaller print substrate segments together into the single substrate, and coupling an attachment member along at least one ~~side~~ edge of the single substrate.

12. (Currently amended): A system for printing an entire image on oversized print substrate, comprising:

a transportation system having a track;

a printing station, comprising a moveable print head;

a smoothing device, comprising a horizontal bed and an elevating means;

a platform, wherein the platform comprises a hollow frame, wherein the horizontal bed is sized to pass through the hollow frame when the horizontal bed is elevated wherein the platform is sized to receive an oversized print substrate, and wherein the platform resides on the track and moves along the track in a translational motion; and

wherein as the print substrate passes the print head, it is adjacent the horizontal bed at an elevation higher than the platform by the elevating means; and

wherein the print head is configured to scan across the print substrate in a direction perpendicular to the translational motion of the print substrate.

13. (Previously added): A system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the transportation track further comprises a groove.

14. (Previously added): A system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the smoothing device is

Serial No.: 09/626,040

coordinated with the platform movement such that the elevating means elevates the horizontal bed of the smoothing device in accordance with a predefined position of the platform along the track.

15. (Previously added): A system for printing an entire image on oversized print substrate, comprising:

a transportation system having a track;

a printing station, comprising a moveable print head;

a smoothing device, comprising a horizontal bed and an elevating means;

a platform, wherein the platform is sized to receive an oversized print substrate, and wherein the platform resides on the track and moves along the track in a translational motion; and

wherein as the print substrate passes the print head, it is adjacent the horizontal bed at an elevation higher than the platform by the elevating means; and

wherein the print head is configured to scan across the print substrate in a direction perpendicular to the translational motion of the print substrate;

wherein the smoothing device is coordinated with the platform movement such that the elevating means elevates the horizontal bed of the smoothing device in accordance with a predefined position of the platform along the track and wherein the platform further comprises a hollow frame, wherein the horizontal bed is sized to pass through the hollow frame when the horizontal bed is elevated.

Serial No.: 09/626,040

16. (Previously added): A system as claimed in claim 12, the platform further comprising a clamping device and an expandable member, wherein the clamping device is coupled to the expandable member.

17. (Previously added): A system as claimed in claim 15, the clamping device being configured to releasably couple to the print substrate and secure the print substrate to the platform.

18. (Previously added): A system as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a transport mechanism having a rectangular member; and a motor, wherein the rectangular member is configured to contact the platform during operation and linearly translate the platform along the track.

19. (Previously added) A method for printing an image on oversized print media on a printing apparatus having a transportation system; a printing station; an unloading station and delivery station; and a platform; the copy of the image being received by a printer from a client, comprising:

assembling a single print substrate, wherein the single print substrate comprises a plurality of smaller print substrate segments;

editing and adjusting the print parameters for the image;

scanning the image and storing the image on a storage medium;

printing the image onto the preassembled single print substrate; and

delivering the printed substrate to the client.

20. (Previously added): A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein assembling a print substrate further comprises coupling the smaller print segments together into the single substrate, and coupling an attachment member along at least one side of the single substrate.

21. (Previously added): A method for printing an image on oversized print media on a printing apparatus having a transportation system; a platform comprising a hollow frame, a printing station; and a smoothing device, comprising a horizontal bed and an elevating means, wherein the horizontal bed is sized to pass through the hollow frame when the horizontal bed is elevated; the copy of the image being received by a printer from a client, comprising:

assembling a single print substrate, wherein the single print substrate comprises a plurality of smaller print segments;

editing and adjusting the print parameters for the image;

scanning the image and storing the image on a storage medium;

printing the image onto the preassembled single print substrate; and

delivering the printed substrate to the client.

22. (Previously added): A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein assembling a print substrate further comprises coupling the smaller print segments together into the single substrate, and coupling an attachment member along at least one side of the single substrate.

23. (Currently amended) A system as claimed in claim 1 ~~4~~, wherein the print head is configured to



linearly translate across the substrate in a plane parallel to the plane of the substrate.

24. (Previously added) A method as claimed in claim 21, further comprising passing the substrate over the horizontal bed of the smoothing device and elevating the horizontal bed and substrate to within a predefined distance of the print head.

25. (Currently amended) A system for printing an entire image on oversized print media, comprising:

a transportation system having a track;

a printing station, comprising a moveable print head;

an unloading station and delivery station;

a platform, wherein the platform is sized to receive an oversized print substrate, the print substrate being sized to correspond to a desired product size, and wherein the platform resides on the track and moves along the track in a translational motion;

~~A system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising~~ a smoothing device, the smoothing device comprising a horizontal bed and an elevating means, wherein the smoothing device is positioned adjacent the print station such that the substrate passes over the horizontal bed;

wherein the printing station and the unloading station and delivery station are coupled together by the track; the platform and print substrate being linearly translated along the track to each station; and

wherein the print head is configured to scan across the print substrate in a direction perpendicular to the translational motion of the print substrate.

26. (Previously added) A method for printing as claimed in claim 10, wherein the assembling the print substrate further comprises coupling the plurality of smaller print substrate segments to form a unitary substrate sized to receive the image during printing.

27. (New): A system for printing an entire image on oversized print media, comprising:

a transportation system having a track, wherein the track comprises a rail having a groove;

a printing station, comprising a moveable print head;

a platform, wherein the platform is sized to receive an oversized print substrate, the print substrate being sized to correspond to a desired product size, and wherein the platform resides on the track and moves along the track in a translational motion;

wherein the printing station and the unloading station and delivery station are coupled together by the track; the platform and print substrate being linearly translated along the track to each station; and

wherein the print head is configured to scan across the print substrate in a direction perpendicular to the translational motion of the print substrate.

28. (New) A system for printing as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a transport mechanism having a guidance system, wherein the guidance system couples to the groove of the track and is configured to move the platform along the track.

Serial No. 09/626,040

29. (New) A system for printing as claimed in claim 27, further comprising a transport mechanism having a guidance system, wherein the guidance system couples to the rail of the track and is configured to move the platform along the track.